
SENATE BILL 6699

State of Washington 59th Legislature 2006 Regular Session

By Senators Pridemore, Schmidt, Zarelli, McAuliffe, Spanel and Delvin

Read first time 01/19/2006. Referred to Committee on Early Learning, K-12 & Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to cost savings on course materials for students at
2 state universities, regional universities, and The Evergreen State
3 College; adding a new section to chapter 28B.10 RCW; and creating a new
4 section.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that:

7 (1) Often the bundling of texts, workbooks, CD-ROMs, and other
8 course related materials is unnecessary since many students do not use
9 all of the materials included and may realize cost savings if materials
10 are also offered independently one from the other; and

11 (2) Many faculty and staff select materials uninformed of the
12 retail costs and differences between versions.

13 It is the intent of the legislature to give students more choices
14 for purchasing educational materials and to encourage faculty and staff
15 to work closely with bookstores and publishers to implement the least
16 costly option without sacrificing educational content and to provide
17 maximum cost savings to students.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28B.10 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 (1) The boards of regents of the state universities and the boards
4 of trustees of the regional universities and The Evergreen State
5 College shall adopt rules requiring that:

6 (a) Affiliated bookstores:

7 (i) Provide students the option of purchasing materials that are
8 unbundled, disclose to faculty and staff the costs to students of
9 purchasing materials, and disclose publicly how new editions vary from
10 previous editions;

11 (ii) Actively promote and publicize book buy-back programs; and

12 (iii) Disclose retail costs for course materials on a per course
13 basis to faculty and staff and make this information publicly
14 available; and

15 (b) Faculty and staff members consider the least costly practices
16 in assigning course materials, such as adopting the least expensive
17 edition when educational content is comparable and working closely with
18 publishers and local bookstores to create bundles and packages if they
19 deliver cost savings to students.

20 (2) As used in this section:

21 (a) "Materials" means any supplies or texts required or recommended
22 by faculty or staff for a given course.

23 (b) "Bundled" means a group of objects joined together by packaging
24 or required to be purchased as an indivisible unit.

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